

OREGON AND WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
JOINT STAFF REPORT - FALL FACT SHEET NO. 16
Columbia River Compact
October 11, 2011

Fisheries Under Consideration:	Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial
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Management guidelines, allocations, and preseason run forecasts for the 2011 fall season were presented in Fall Fact Sheet #1, dated July 28, 2011.

Inseason Forecasts

- TAC has reviewed salmonid stock status weekly and provided inseason run size forecasts. TAC's current projections include 335,700 URB Chinook and 260,000 early stock coho to the Columbia River mouth. TAC will continue to provide in-season forecasts as needed.
- The preseason forecast for late stock coho is 102,300 fish to the Columbia River mouth. Preseason passage expectations include 36,700 adult fish at Bonneville Dam. Counts of late stock coho began on October 1 at Bonneville Dam, and currently total 13,600 adult fish. Passage at Bonneville Dam is typically around 40% complete by October 9.

Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries

2011 Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Fall Season Landings (<i>rounded, preliminary</i>)						
Date	Zone	Chinook	Coho	Sturgeon	Deliveries	
<i>Early Fall (8 periods) Aug 3-30</i>		<i>25,300</i>	<i>1,750</i>	<i>1,251</i>	<i>67-159</i>	
18-Sep	1-5	10,300	3,500	339	172	
19-Sep	4-5	5,900	1,800	91	106	
20-Sep	4-5	5,300	2,200	80	94	
28-Sep	1-5	2,300	800	405	115	
05-Oct	1-5	1,600	800	185	83	
<i>Late Fall (to date)</i>		<i>25,400</i>	<i>9,100</i>	<i>1,100</i>		
2011 Fall Season Total		50,700	10,850	2,351		

- CWT data is complete for mainstem commercial fisheries and Lower Columbia River sport fisheries through September 27.
- Through September 30, Select Area fisheries have harvested nearly 22,000 Chinook and 42,000 coho. Preseason expectations included 12,000 Chinook and 40,000 coho for the season. Select Area fishing sites are open through October, but catch and effort is winding down as expected.
- CWT data for Select Area fisheries is not available until post season. Based on preseason stock composition and current Chinook harvest, URBs could represent 2% of the harvest.
- Based on the current run size projections and CWT analysis, at least 1,000 URBs remain available for non-Indian harvest. The harvestable balance takes into account projected harvest in the on-going sport fisheries (including Snake River), and any October commercial fisheries.

- Based on the information currently in hand, staff estimates around 8,000 coho are available for commercial mainstem harvest. This balance is a result of the run size upgrade and transferable ESA impacts from completed ocean fisheries.
- A balance of 190 white sturgeon, or 6% of the 2011 commercial white sturgeon guideline, remain available for harvest.

Fishery Recommendations

<i>2011 Non-Indian Mainstem Commercial Late Fall Fishery</i>		
Season #1:	6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thursday October 13, 2011	(12 hours)
Area:	Zones 1-3	
Gear	6-inch maximum mesh size; un-slackened floater gillnet. Nets not specifically authorized for use in this fishery may be onboard the vessel if properly stored.	
Season #2	7:00 p.m. Thursday Oct. 13 to 7:00 a.m. Friday Oct. 14, 2011	(12 hours)
Area:	Zones 4-5	
Gear:	8-inch minimum mesh size.	
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Elokomin-B, Cowlitz River, Kalama-B, Lewis-B, Washougal, and Sandy rivers.	
Allowable Sales:	Salmon and white sturgeon. A maximum of 2 white sturgeon may be possessed or sold by each participating vessel during each calendar week (Sunday through Saturday). The white sturgeon possession and sales limit includes mainstem fisheries only. Sales of white sturgeon from fall Select Area fisheries is prohibited.	
Additional Gear:	Drift gillnets only. Nets fished any time between official sunset and official sunrise must have lighted buoys on both ends of the net. If the net is attached to the boat, then one lighted buoy on the end of the net opposite the boat is required.	
Additional Rules:	24-hour Quick Reporting Rule will be in effect for Washington buyers.	

- ✓ Catch estimates include 800 Chinook, 5,000 coho, and less than 100 white sturgeon.
- ✓ URB impacts from complete, ongoing, and proposed fisheries are estimated at 14.5%, compared to the 15% impact limit for non-Indian fisheries.
- ✓ LRH impacts from actual and projected catch are estimated at 36.7% compared to the 37% exploitation rate allowed.
- ✓ LCN coho impacts are projected to be 14% compared to the 15% allowable exploitation rate.

Future Hearings

Staff recommends a Compact hearing be scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Wednesday October 19 to consider mainstem commercial non-Indian fisheries.